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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/740,542

Filed: December 18, 2000

Inventor(s):

John H. Howard, David
Robinson, and Randall D.
Rettberg

Title: Direct Access from Client
to Storage Device

Examiner: Gerezgiher, Yemane
M.

Group/Art Unit: 2144

Atty. Dkt. No: 5181-59700

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Lawrence J. Merkel

Printed Name

[Signature]
Signature

7/21/04
Date

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF
April 20, 2004

RECEIVED

JUL 13 2004

Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of April 20, 2004, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.

Please amend the case as listed below.